

C. Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. ***(currently amended)*** An antisense oligonucleotide consisting of a nucleotide sequence complementary to a nucleotide sequence consisting of at least 15 successive nucleotides in the nucleotide sequence consisting of nucleotides 6-44 of SEQ ID NO: 1.
2. ***(currently amended)*** An antisense oligonucleotide comprising a nucleotide sequence which specifically hybridizes to a nucleotide sequence consisting of at least 15 successive nucleotides in the nucleotide sequence consisting of nucleotides 6-44 of SEQ ID NO: 1.
3. ***(previously presented)*** The oligonucleotide according to claim 1 wherein at least one internucleotide bond is a phosphorothioate bond.
4. ***(currently amended)*** A ~~pharmaceutical~~ composition comprising the oligonucleotide according to claim 1, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.
5. ***(previously presented)*** An anti-HIV agent comprising the oligonucleotide according to claim 1.

6. ***(currently amended)*** A ~~pharmaceutical~~ composition for treating or preventing HIV, comprising the oligonucleotide according to claim 1, and a pharmaceutically or veterinarily acceptable carrier or diluent.

7-8. ***(cancelled)***

9. ***(previously presented)*** The oligonucleotide according to claim 2, wherein at least one internucleotide bond is a phosphorothioate bond.

10. ***(currently amended)*** A ~~pharmaceutical~~ composition comprising the oligonucleotide according to claim 2, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

11. ***(currently amended)*** A ~~pharmaceutical~~ composition comprising the oligonucleotide according to claim 3, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

12. ***(previously presented)*** An anti-HIV agent comprising the oligonucleotide according to claim 2.

13. ***(previously presented)*** An anti-HIV agent comprising the oligonucleotide according to claim 3.

14. ***(currently amended)*** A ~~pharmaceutical~~ composition for treating or preventing HIV, comprising the oligonucleotide according to claim 2, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

15. ***(currently amended)*** A ~~pharmaceutical~~ composition for treating or preventing HIV, comprising the oligonucleotide according to claim 3, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

16-17. ***(canceled)***

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